GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3334
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2001
BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED
A. VENKATESH NAIK;BALIRAM;GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any review of the functioning of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited(BSNL) has been done since its inception;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the schemes proposed to be formulated by BSNL upto March 2001;

(d) whether the Government have finalised the capital structure of BSNL;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether BSNL has been empowered to take decisions on investment plans without the prior approval of the Government;
(g) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
(h) the policy of absorption of employees in BSNL;
(i) whether there is any reluctance in absorbing officers and staff;
(j) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
(k) the steps taken by the Government for simultaneous absorption of the staff and officers belonging to all services in BSNL?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a), (b) & (c) : BSNL has got approved Annual Plan for 2000-2001.Performance Review of BSNL is done on monthly basis.The review upto the month of January 2001 has been completed. A copy of the review report on Development Activities upto January, 2001 is enclosed at Annexure.

(d) & (e) : The authorised share capital of BSNL is Rs. 10,000 crores and paid up capital is Rs. 5,000 crores.

(f) & (g) : BSNL Board has been empowered to take investment decisions on : (a) new projects with monetary limit of Rs. 50 crores in each case and (b) projects of repetitive nature without any upper monetary limit.

(h) to (k) : The terms and conditions of service in BSNL will be finalised after discussions with the recognised Unions formed by the Optees of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) as per the standing orders of Industrial Employment Act, 1946Option for absorption in BSNL have already been called from Group C and D employees. The last date has been fixed as 31-3-2001.

In respect of Group B officers for the present, it has been decided to fix June, 2001 as the cut off date. However, this date may need to be extended. Regarding absorption of Group A officers in BSNL, as per proposal approved by the Cabinet,Group A officers are to be given an extended period of deemed deputation, for a period up-to 5 years. A committee has been constituted to go into the cadre management issues of Group A officers. Once the issues are sorted out, options would be offered to Group A officers.

The process of absorption of optees to the BSNL is a major task involving about 3.6 lakh employees.To ensure that the process is carried out smoothly, it has been decided to have separate verification in respect of different groups of staff. This is all the more necessary because Group A and B staff can form unions / associations in executive category whereas staff in Group C and D category can form union in non-executive category.

ANNEXURE

Achievements of BSNL upto January, 2001.

Sl No.	ITEM	Commissioning Target for 2000-01	Achievement upto January, 2001

1 Local Exchanges		
(A) Equipped Cap. (NET)	6700000	3643989
(B) Direct Exch.Lines	5350000	3320830
2. Trunk Automatic Exchange Cap.	400000	278000
3. Public Telephones Local, STD and Highway	120000	168519
4. Village Public Telephones	100000	19117
5. MW - RKMs	10000	12255
6. Optical Fibre	100000	32857
7 SATELLITE MCPC-VSATS	164	47
8. IDR Routes	23	15
9. Ku-band Stations	2	0